Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A method of determining volume types present on a storage device, the method including the steps of determining superficial specifying characteristics of [[an unknown]] a volume on the storage device and correlating [[these]] the superficial specifying characteristics against one or more previously determined volume characteristics thereby inferring the volume type a method used for writing data onto the volume.

2.   (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the storage device comprise comprises one or more data storage units.

3.   (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the one or more data storage units corresponds to a disk or drive and/or is logical or physical.

4.   (Original) A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the storage device comprises a disk, array of disks or similar assembly of partitionable media.

5.   (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the specifying characteristics include identifying strings embedded in the a symbolic names name of each the volume.

6.   (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the specifying characteristics further include characteristics related to how the volumes are the volume is physically arranged in the storage device.

7.   (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the physical arrangement of the volumes volume on the storage device include criteria corresponding to the size of the storage unit extents of the volume in relation to the actual size of the volume.

8.   (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein RAID and striped volume types are identified by corresponding strings present in [[the]] a symbolic volume name.

9.   (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein, if the volume is not previously identified as a RAID volume, the characteristic of the sum of the storage unit extents occupied by the volume being greater than the actual size of the volume corresponds to a mirrored volume type.

10.   (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the characteristic of the storage unit extents occupied by the volume being on the same storage unit corresponds to a simple volume type.

11.   (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein if the volume is not previously identified as a RAID volume, the characteristic of neither the sum of the storage unit extents occupied by the volume being greater than the actual size of the volume nor the storage unit extents occupied by the volume being on the same storage device, corresponds to a spanned volume type.

12.   (Currently amended) A method of determining [[the]] volume types present on a disk, the method including the steps of:
–   determining if [[the]] a symbolic name of [[the]] a volume contains information identifying the volume type as either "raid" or "striped" thereby indicating that the volume type is "raid" or "striped" respectively;
–   determining [[the]] a size of all the storage unit extents occupied by the volume and the actual size of the volume;
–   determining if the sum of the storage unit extents is greater than the actual size of the volume thereby indicating that the volume type is "mirrored";
–   determining if all of the storage unit extents lie on the same storage unit thereby indicating that the volume type is "simple";
–   and, determining if [[the]] all the storage unit extents do not lie on the same storage unit and that the sum of the storage unit extents is not greater than the actual size of the volume, thereby indicating that the volume type is "spanned".

13.   (Currently amended) A system for managing volumes on storage devices including:
–   memory which stores specifying characteristics corresponding to one or more volume types;

— a processor arranged to determine characteristics of volumes occupying storage devices which are present on the system and to correlate the determined characteristics against the ~~specified~~ specifying characteristics thereby inferring ~~the volume type~~ a method used for writing data onto the volumes.

14. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the inference step includes extracting the symbolic name of the volume and if it includes the string RAID or striped, correlating that with the RAID and striped volume types respectively, and otherwise analysing the size of the storage unit extents occupied by the volume and if the sum of the storage unit extents is more than the actual size of the volume correlating that with a mirrored volume type, if the storage unit extents occupied by the volume all reside on the same storage unit, correlating that with a simple volume type and if none of the abovementioned criteria are met, correlating this with a spanned volume type.

15. (Original) A computer adapted to operate in accordance with claim 1.

16. (Currently amended) A computer program module embodied on a computer readable medium, adapted to function in accordance with claim 1.